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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. MTI-31591

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Chad A. Cobbley et al.
Serial No. : 10/077,554
Filing Date : February 15, 2002
For : Molded Stiffener For Thin Substrates
Examiner : TRINH, Hoa B.
Group Art Unit : 2814
Confirmation No. : 3265

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a) and 1.10

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being transmitted to Fax
No. 571-273-8300 addressed to Examiner TRINH at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Date: 10/6/05 Viktor L. Shale

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed September 8, 2005.

Response to Restriction Requirement begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.

USSN 10/077,554

Response to Restriction Requirement

Response to Restriction Requirement

Election of species. At page 2, the Examiner requires an election of species between the following species.

Species I -- Figures 3-6,

Species II -- Figures 7-8,

Species III -- Figures 9-10,

Species IV -- Figure 11,

Species V -- Figure 12, and

Species VI -- Figure 13.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Election of Species requirement as it applies to Species III and IV. Species IV corresponds to Figure 11, which shows the substrate of Figure 9 in mold plates of a molding assembly. Thus, the substrate assembly shown in Figure 11 (Species IV) is the same as that shown in Figure 9 (Species III) except that in Figure 11 it is in a molding assembly. Therefore, these are not distinct species, and Species III and IV should be combined.

Applicant hereby elects Species I.

Listing of claims readable on the elected species: Claims 1-11, 16-18, 23-24, 28, 34-35, 37, 44-45, 47-49, 55-58, 60, 62-76, and 85 read on Species I.

Generic Claims.

The Examiner contends that currently, there is no generic claim. Applicant disagrees, as the following claims are generic to Species I-VI: Claims 1-11, 16-18, 23-24, 28, 34-35, 37, 44-45, 47-49, 55-58, 60, 62-76, and 85.

Applicant notes that the election of species is solely to facilitate an examination search, and that Applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species upon allowance of a generic claim. It is understood that if the claims of the elected species are found allowable over the prior art, the Examiner will expand the search to include other species.